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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/003,044	
	Filing Date	December 6, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Hajime MATSUMOTO	
	Art Unit	1621	
	Examiner Name	K. Puttlitz	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	6	Attorney Docket Number	43247

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Date	November 18, 2005

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PATENT

43247

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	:	
	:	
Hajime MATSUMOTO et al.	:	Art Unit: 1621
	:	
Serial No.: 10/003,044	:	Examiner: K. Puttlitz
	:	
Filed: December 6, 2001	:	
	:	
For: PRODUCTION PROCESS FOR	:	
HYDROXYLALKYL (METH)ACRYLATE	:	

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the August 18, 2005 Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 8-13 are rejected. In view of the following comments, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

Rejection Over U.S. Patent No. 3,709,928 to Murayama et al.

The claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 3,709,928 to Murayama et al. However, it is unclear from the Action specifically which claims are rejected. Clarification is requested.

Murayama et al. relates to a process for producing hydroxyalkylacrylates or hydroxyalkylmethacrylates from the reaction of alkylene oxides and acrylic acid or methacrylic acid. Murayama et al. further only discloses distilling the resulting reaction mixture to obtain a purified hydroxyalkylacrylate or hydroxyalkylmethacrylate. The Action refers to Table 1 which discloses trace amounts of methacrylic acid in the purified